

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

32

CONFIDENTIAL

CORRECTION ISSUED:

Action

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AIR

FROM: BONN - CORRECTED COPY

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 2324, APRIL 16, NOON

PRIORITY

SENT NIACT BERLIN 793; REPEATED INFORMATION PRIORITY DEPARTMENT
2324, LONDON 600, PARIS 799, MOSCOW 276, USAF (ADVN) 48,
CINCUSAFE 426, CINCUSAREUR 546.

PARIS ALSO PASS USRO, CINCEUR, THURSTON, WEST

REQUEST US CHIEF CONTROLLER MAKE FOLLOWING WRITTEN PROTEST
SOVIET COUNTERPART SOONEST:

QUOTE

I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PROTEST THE DELIBERATE,
UNWARRANTED AND DANGEROUS HARASSMENT OF A USAF C-130 CARGO
AIRCRAFT FLYING THE SOUTH CORRIDOR TO AND FROM BERLIN ON APRIL 15
THE SOVIET ELEMENT OF THE BERLIN AIR SAFETY CENTER WAS PROPERLY
NOTIFIED OF THE FLIGHTS IN THE CUSTOMARY MANNER. NEVERTHELESS,
SOVIET FIGHTER AIRCRAFT HARASSED THE UE TRANSPORT BY PERFORMING
DANGEROUS MANEUVERS AND FORMATION FLYING WITH A COMPLETE
DISREGARD FOR SAFETY. THE SOVIET FIGHTERS FLEW DANGEROUSLY
CLOSE AND AT TIMES WITHIN 12 YARDS OF THE AIRCRAFT.

THE DELIBERATE HARASSMENT OF THIS AIRCRAFT CONSTITUTES A
FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF FLIGHT SAFETY IN THE CORRIDORS. WE
MUST AGAIN INSIST THAT THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES TAKE APPROPRIATE
ACTION TO INSURE THAT FLIGHTS OPERATED THROUGH THE CORRIDORS IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE RIGHTS ESTABLISHED BY QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT
WILL NOT BE SUBJECTED TO DANGEROUS AND UNWARRANTED HARASSMENT.
WE WILL HOLD THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY
CONSEQUENCES STEMMING FROM WILLFUL DISREGARD OF FLIGHT SAFETY
IN THE CORRIDORS.

UNQUOTE.

BRUCE

Correction made CONFIDENTIAL

MAJ MLJ/23

by RM/R

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Authority

AND 877-449

NARA, Date

1995

This copy must be returned to RM/R central files with notation of action taken.

10/9/54

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